

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 09/695,140

(A1) an olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer, or both of an olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid random copolymer and an olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer, and

(A2) a metal ion-neutralized olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer, or both of a metal ion-neutralized olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid random copolymer and a metal ion-neutralized olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer;

(B) 5 to 80 parts by weight of a fatty acid or fatty acid derivative having a molecular weight of at least 280; and

(C) 0.1 to 10 parts by weight of a basic inorganic metal compound capable of neutralizing acidic groups in components A and B.

13. (Thrice Amended) A solid golf ball comprising a solid core of at least one layer and a cover of at least one layer enclosing the solid core, wherein at least one layer of the solid core or the cover is made of a golf ball material comprising a heated mixture having a melt index of at least 1.0 dg/min, consisting essentially of:

(A) 100 parts by weight of a base resin comprising a mixture of

(A1) an olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer, or both of an olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid random copolymer and an olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer, and

(A2) a metal ion-neutralized olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer, or both of a metal ion-neutralized olefin-unsaturated

carboxylic acid random copolymer and a metal ion-neutralized olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer;

(B) 5 to 80 parts by weight of a fatty acid or fatty acid derivative having a molecular weight of at least 280; and

(C) 0.1 to 10 parts by weight of a basic inorganic metal compound capable of neutralizing acidic groups in components A and B.

16. (Thrice Amended) A thread-wound golf ball comprising:

a thread-wound core composed of a solid center of at least one layer or a liquid center made of a liquid-filled center envelope, about which solid or liquid center has been wound a rubber thread, and

a cover of at least one layer which encloses the thread-wound core;

wherein the solid center or at least one layer of the cover is made of a golf ball material comprising a heated mixture having a melt index of at least 1.0 dg/min, consisting essentially of:

(A) 100 parts by weight of a base resin comprising a mixture of

(A1) an olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer, or both of an olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid random copolymer and an olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer, and

(A2) a metal ion-neutralized olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer, or both of a metal ion-neutralized olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid random copolymer and a metal ion-neutralized olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer;

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(B) 5 to 80 parts by weight of a fatty acid or fatty acid derivative having a molecular weight of at least 280; and

(C) 0.1 to 10 parts by weight of a basic inorganic metal compound capable of neutralizing acidic groups in components A and B.

Please add the following new claims:

19. (New) The one-piece golf ball of claim 12, wherein the basic inorganic metal compound of component (C) is selected from the group consisting of calcium oxide, magnesium oxide, sodium hydroxide and calcium hydroxide.

20. (New) The solid golf ball of claim 13, wherein the basic inorganic metal compound of component (C) is selected from the group consisting of calcium oxide, magnesium oxide, sodium hydroxide and calcium hydroxide.

21. (New) The thread-wound golf ball of claim 16, wherein the basic inorganic metal compound of component (C) is selected from the group consisting of calcium oxide, magnesium oxide, sodium hydroxide and calcium hydroxide.

22. (New) The one-piece golf ball of claim 12, wherein the compound of component (C) is present in an amount of 0.1 to 5 parts by weight.

23. (New) The solid golf ball of claim 13, wherein the compound of component (C) is present in an amount of 0.1 to 5 parts by weight.

24. (New) The thread-wound golf ball of claim 16, wherein the compound of component (C) is present in an amount of 0.1 to 5 parts by weight.